

**QUALITY FIRST – FINANCIAL INCENTIVES PLAN – RECOMMENDATIONS    August 4, 2008**

INCENTIVE TYPES	DESCRIPTION	RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNTS	RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNTS	NOTES
		CHILD CARE CENTERS	CHILD CARE HOMES	
<b>1.</b> Enrollment Incentive	To encourage and reward enrollment.	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$250</b>	Enrollment incentive to be awarded upon completion of Enrollment Agreement. Enrollment incentive available one time only.
<b>2.</b> Program Improvement Grants	Grants based upon needs as identified through assessment process and Program Improvement Plan	<b>Small Centers –</b> <b>Enrollment up to 50 children</b> <b>Maximum amount of \$7,500</b>  <b>Medium Centers –</b> <b>Enrollment of 51-150 children</b> <b>Maximum amount of \$10,000</b>  <b>Large Centers-</b> <b>Enrollment over 150 children</b> <b>Maximum amount of \$15,000</b>	<b>Maximum amount of \$3,500</b>	Available a maximum of 3 times to each center or home, once for each Program Improvement Plan year.  Grants may be matched with other funds from program or outside funders.

<b>3.</b> Quality Improvement Award	Achievement of Accomplished Improvement Recognition Award	<b>\$1,000</b>	<b>\$500</b>	In Quality First Phase 1 this award will be based upon achievement of identified goals in Program Improvement Plan; (eventually these awards will be linked to Star Rating improvement)
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Notes and Clarifications:

**Incentives structure to be reviewed in December 2009 at end of first year of program.**

#### THE USE OF THE INCENTIVES AND AWARDS

- Is the funding to be site specific? **Yes, must apply to licensed or regulated center or home enrolled in Quality First.**
- Can a bonus, quality grant or monetary award be used to replace any other funding currently allocated to operate the site? Supplanting? **No. Funding will be provided in addition to current revenue streams. This financial incentive and award money is to encourage and support improvement to current practice or environment.**
- One bonus, grant or award per fiscal year? Awarded more than once? **Program Improvement Grants will be available one time per 12 month period, 3 times per center/home over a 3 year Program Improvement Plan Period. Program Improvement Grants will be based upon the supports needed as identified in a Program Improvement Plan established by center/home in consultation with Coach.**
- Construction? Minor repairs ok? **All Improvement Grants will be applied for and awarded based upon the evaluation (need) and program improvement plan. Construction or minor repairs can be funded if the evaluation and Program Improvement Plan indicate the priority of these areas.**

- Issue of capital? Whose equipment is it? Facility or FTF? **Improvement Grant funds may be spent as appropriate for improvements most needed, indicated by evaluation and in consultation with coach and program improvement plan. The program/home is the owner of any products or services attained.**
- **The “financial incentives and awards” are part of the larger system of incentives for participation.** (Coaching, Professional Development, Child Care Health Consultation, program improvement planning are all included in the system) Programs and coaches will also have opportunity to identify other existing resources and supports available locally for each participating program.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY AND APPROPRIATE USE OF FUNDS will be critically important. Efficient and effective use of available funds will be reliant upon the quality of the process of the QIRS system: coaching, program assessment, and program improvement planning.**